

**Security Council**

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**Letter dated 10 November 2000 from the Secretary-General
addressed to the President of the Security Council**

As members of the Security Council are well aware, the Burundi peace process culminated in the signing of the Arusha Agreement on Peace and Reconciliation in Burundi on 28 August 2000. The Agreement has entrusted a special role to the United Nations. It has requested the United Nations to chair the Implementation Monitoring Committee and to provide support to a wide range of activities together with other international actors.

The mandate of the Implementation Monitoring Committee is broad and complex. It includes being asked to supervise and ensure the effective implementation of the Agreement; ensure respect for the implementation timetable and accurate interpretation of the Agreement; arbitrate and rule on disputes that may arise among the signatories; give guidance to and coordinate the activities of the commissions and subcommissions set up to implement the Agreement and assist the transitional Government in mobilizing the resources required to implement the Agreement.

The tasks that the United Nations is expected to perform as Chairman of the Implementation Monitoring Committee encompass most of the functions that it is normally called upon to fulfil in support of the implementation of a comprehensive peace agreement. For the range of activities required to support the peace process, there will be a need to adjust the current political mandate and strengthen the capacity of the United Nations in Burundi. The success of the Committee is an important confidence-building measure and one that should contribute to progress in other aspects of the peace process.

It is not yet clear how the parties to the agreement and the countries directly involved in the peace process perceive the functions and operations of the Implementation Monitoring Committee and the role expected of the United Nations as its Chairman. It will be important to seek their views on those and related issues before the planned launching of the Committee in Arusha at the end of this month. I have, therefore, asked my Special Representative for the Great Lakes region, Berhanu Dinka, and my Representative in Burundi, Jean Arnault, to undertake consultations with the Facilitator, the Burundi parties, the member countries of the regional initiative and the Organization of African Unity. Following the mission and the meeting at Arusha, I hope to be in a position to submit to the Security Council proposals on an expanded mandate for the United Nations in Burundi and on how



the United Nations capacity there could be strengthened to help it carry out the functions entrusted to it as Chairman of the Committee.

In the meantime, and until such time as the details of the new tasks requested of the United Nations are clarified, I should like to recommend that the Security Council extend the mandate of the United Nations Office in Burundi until 31 December 2001.

I should be grateful if you would bring this letter to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(Signed) Kofi A. Annan
